Speech in the Virginia Convention by Patrick Henry &

The Declaration of Independence

Junior English – Mr. Daniels

“Speech in the Virginia Convention.” Multiple Choice.

1. The main idea of this speech is that
   1. The British are evil.
   2. The Convention is cowardly.
   3. It is time for the colonists to fight for freedom.
   4. War is the best way to solve conflicts between people.
2. Henry believes that the time for negotiation
   1. Is at hand.
   2. Has passed.
   3. May still come.
   4. Has never and will never exist.
3. What human weakness does Henry associate with the colonists who oppose his position?
   1. Disloyalty
   2. Cowardice
   3. Selfishness
   4. Self-deception
4. Which of the following best describes Henry’s tone in this speech?
   1. Fiery
   2. Smug
   3. Doubtful
   4. Quietly confident
5. To Henry, the situation of the colonies calls for the Convention to
   1. Take swift action.
   2. Engage in lengthy debate.
   3. Consult with other authorities.
   4. Delay action until tempers have calmed.
6. At the beginning of the speech, Henry treats the members of the Convention whose position he opposes as
   1. Bullies.
   2. Traitors.
   3. Patriots.
   4. Inferiors.
7. Which of the following is not something that Henry believes will aid the colonial cause against the British?
   1. A sense of unity
   2. A sense of justice
   3. A desire for peace
   4. Strength in numbers
8. Henry’s use of rhetorical questions in this speech is mainly intended to make the decision facing the Convention seem
   1. Trivial.
   2. Complex.
   3. Clear-cut.
   4. Impossible to make.

“The Declaration of Independence.” Multiple Choice.

1. According to the Declaration, a government should derives its power from
   1. The politicians.
   2. The educated class.
   3. A carefully select few.
   4. Those it governs.
2. The Declaration states that it is right to overthrow a government when it
   1. Becomes a strong central government.
   2. Becomes a weak central government.
   3. No longer represents the people.
   4. Is obvious that political change is needed.
3. The ultimate goal of the Declaration of Independence was to
   1. Plead with the British not to declare war.
   2. Absolve the colonies of any allegiance to Britain.
   3. Ask the British to grant some powers to the colonies.
   4. Force the British to deal with the colonies’ complaints.
4. The Declaration states that all men have the right to
   1. Liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
   2. Protection from the British government
   3. Keep and bear arms.
   4. Vote in elections.
5. What does Jefferson mean when he says that “governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed?”
   1. People cannot be expected to make decisions about government.
   2. Only governments can decide what is right for the common people.
   3. Governments are created and given power by the people they govern.
   4. If people do not vote, they should have no say in the government.
6. Jefferson accuses the king of
   1. Creating an independent government for the colonies.
   2. Refusing to take the colonies.
   3. Making it difficult for the colonists to attend legislative meetings.
   4. Not letting the colonies keep a portion of the taxes they collect.
7. Jefferson opens the Declaration by stating that, as a show of respect, the colonies will
   1. Explain the causes of their discontent.
   2. Demand that all British forces leave the United States.
   3. Explain why the colonies cannot fight against Britain.
   4. Ask the representatives to present the king with a list of grievances.